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Message Text

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43
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

EUR-12 SCSE-00 SCA-01 H-02 /047 W
---------- 076126
O 301445Z JUL 76
FM AMCONSDV DHAHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4899
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 0966

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR ASAF, CDES, SA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FATAL CRASH OF US-REGISTERED HELICOPTER
REF: STATE 188225 (NOTAL), STATE 188235 (NOTAL), JIDDA 5231

1. CONSULATE GENERAL HAS CONFIRMED REPORTS OF A US REGISTERED HELICOPTER CRASH ON JULY 28,APPROXIMATELY 15 KILOMETER SOUTH OF JUBAIL. HELICOPTER WAS OWNED BY PETROLEUM HELICOPTERS, 5728 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, NEW ORLEANS (TEL: 7336790). POST HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH FIRM AS MANAGEMENT HAS BEEN OUT AT SITE OF CRASH. POST ALSO HINDERED IN OBTAINING INFORMATION AS CRASH OCCURRED (APPROXIMATELY 1500, 28 JUL) AT BEGINNING OF MOSLEM WEEKEND. POST HAS HOWEVER, SPOKEN TO THE OTHER THREE U.S. FIRMS WHICH HAD EMPLOYEES ON HELICOPTER.

2. POST HAS ALSO DISCUSSED CRASH WITH SHEIKH AHMED GHAMDI,FBQ DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION AT THE DHAHRAN AIRPORT. GHAMDI STATES HIS ORGANIZATION IS INITIATING ANINVESTIGATION AND WELCOMES VISIT OF US EXPERT WILLIAM LAMB. GHAMDI PROMISED ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING VISA AND ENTRY FOR LAMB; POST WILL ALSO MEET AND ASIST.

3. ACORDING TO REPORT PROVIDED BY FIRM WHO EMPLOYED TWO OF
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VICTIMS, VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, CRASH WAS

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WITNESSED BY SAUDI COAST GUARD HOVERCRAFT STANDING OFF-SHORE
NEAR CRASH SITE. REPORT VULCAN RECEIVED STATED THAT HELICOPTER
BURST IN FLAMES BEFORE IT CRASHED NEAR HIGHWAY FROM L BAIL TO
RAS TANURA.

4. DETAILS OF THE SIX VICTIMS, ALL OF WHOM DIED IN THE CRASH
OR WITHIN HOURS THEREAFTER, WILL BE SENT BY IMMEDIATE SEPTEL.
15. FOR LONDON: STATE 188235 NOTIFIED EMBASSY JIDDA THAT NATIONAL
TRANSPORT SAFTEY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM L. LAMB IS TRAVELING
TO SAUDI ARABIA TO INVESTIGATE CRASH. IF LA SHOULD CALL EMBASSY,
WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PASSING CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE TO HIM
AND INFORMING US BY NIACT IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM OF HIS DHAHRAN ETA
AND FLIGHT NUMBER.
BUSHNELL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HELICOPTERS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, INVESTIGATIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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TAGS: EAIR, ASAF, CDES, SA, (LAMB, WILLIAM)
To: STATE
LONDON
Type: TE
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